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FLDS Polygamists Investigated For International Sex Trafficking

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FLDS Polygamists Investigated For International Sex Trafficking

By Edward Lane

Examiner.com

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Evidence collected by Wichita Falls Law enforcement members in a 2008 raid on the FLDS Yearning For Zion Ranch may be used by Canadian Royal Mounted Police in their investigation into allegations of human trafficking for sexual purposes.

Canadian law enforcement is traveling to Texas December 11-16 to investigate the polygamist YFZ Ranch which was covered by national news media when Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers from Wichita Falls and across the state raided the polygamist compound.

Part of the evidence in this latest case allegedly involves 31 underage girls who were taken across international borders to be married to Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints elders.

The Office of Wichita Falls native and Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott sent affidavits of Texas Rangers and thousands of pages of evidence collected in the 2008 Texas raid to British Columbia, Canada to help in the investigation.

Many of the girls were connected to British Columbia, Canada by being born there before allegedly being transported across the United States border.

British Columbia has an FLDS polygamist stronghold not far from the Idaho border.

Warren Jeffs, head of the FLDS movement, receiving a life sentence plus twenty years after being convicted in San Angelo, Texas for sexually assaulting two girls ages 12 and 15.

Testimony in Jeffs' trial revealed the FLDS prophet has 78 wives, although one reportedly escaped after the polygamist prophet was escorted to a Texas prison.

Jeffs read an alleged "letter from God" to the judge during his trial threatening eternal damnation to those counties involved in his prosecution.

It was never determined who transcribed the letter.

Texas has successfully prosecuted eleven polygamist leaders so far.

Members of the Wichita Falls CPS office helped rescue 400 children from the YFZ ranch during the

2008 raid.

Posted by WillH at November 29, 2011 02:28 PM to Human Trafficking & Smuggling

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